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Appl. No. : 10/076,608 Confirmation No.: 2305
Applicant : KITAYAMA et al.
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Customer Nos. : 42798 (Washington, D.C.) and 22242 (Chicago)

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Fee Amendment- Publication
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

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AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 312(a)

Sir:

In response to discussions with the Patent Office, please enter this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.312(a) to re-introduce re-numbered claims corresponding to allowable, former claims 1-7 and 9-16. The subject matter of former claims 8 and 17 is presented in allowed, pending claims 18 and 19.

(1) Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

(2) Remarks/arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.